

VOL. 64 NUMBER 2 · EASTER 2022

THE AMBASSADOR

A publication of First Presbyterian Church of Stillwater



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF STILLWATER

Holy Week at FPC

Palm Sunday

Worship and Communion @ 8:30 am
Lenten GiFT in Fellowship Hall @ 9:45 am
Worship and Communion @ 11:00am
(Procession of Palms)

Ecumenical Holy Week Services

First Baptist Church (701 S. Duncan)
April 11th-15th
12:05-12:50pm

Maundy Thursday

Worship @ 7:00 pm
with Communion and Handwashing

Easter Sunday

Worship and Communion @ 8:30 am
Easter Celebration @ 9:45 am
Worship and Communion @ 11:00 am

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Fair Trade Store Spring Cleaning Sale

Sunday, April 24, 8:00 am - 12:30 pm

at the Fair Trade Store across from the library,
in the Hospitality Area, and the Vestibule.

Mark your calendars to join us for the biggest Fair Trade Store sale yet! Never-before-seen merchandise will be available for purchase at a discount, including jewelry, toys, art, Christmas and Easter decorations and gifts, and kitchen accessories. (Chocolate, tea, cocoa, coffee, and olive oil are the only items that will not be discounted.) Please mark your calendar and plan on shopping. The original Fair Trade Closet in the Hospitality Area will have all the Christmas items. There will be long tables in the Vestibule Area with all of the jewelry and other folk-art items. The Fair Trade Store by the library will be open with the regular stock of purses, scarves, kitchen accessories, baby items, etc. No store, no catalog, no on-line shopping will be able to beat the prices! Mark your calendars and spread the word about the ministry of the Fair Trade Store that connects us with our siblings in Christ around the world.

Cash and checks are the only accepted forms of payment. Julie Bills-manager

FPC GARDEN WORK DAY

Please mark your calendar for
Saturday, April 30, 2022.

This is our Garden and Lawn Workday and we are calling on volunteers of all ages! Bring work gloves and any garden tools you may have. We plan on beginning at 9AM and wrapping up by 2PM. Join us and stay as long as you can. We will pull some weeds, plant some flowers, and spread some mulch!

Coffee, juice, and snacks will be provided to help get your day started. Last year this activity was a great help in cleaning up our flower garden and outdoor landscape as we prepared to welcome the spring season. We have set May 14 as an alternative "rain day".





[Jesus said], "For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them.

Of how much more value are you than the birds!"

-Luke 12:23-24

While I have read the above words of Jesus many times, they strike me in a fresh and compelling way this Lenten season. **So many people in the world are on the move in our world due to war, political upheaval, weather extremes, and more – with little more than the clothes they are wearing.**

During this time of journeying with Jesus toward the cross and beyond, we (re)commit ourselves to prayer, giving, and returning to God's promises in Christ. One of the ways we do that is to join with many Christian denominations in the One Great Hour of Sharing, most visibly with our fish banks!

One Great Hour of Sharing – the single largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to provide hope, help and relief – was started in response to refugees coming out of Europe. In 1946, as victims of war in Europe were struggling through near-starvation and homelessness, Episcopal Bishop Henry Sherrill led a small group whose goal was to raise one million dollars in one hour for World Relief. The effort was so successful, they decided to build on this ecumenical offering. Two years later, major radio networks broadcast a show called "One Great Hour" on the Saturday evening before Easter. This broadcast featured President Truman, as well as several popular musicians and actors of the time, and closed with the request to listeners to make a sacrificial contribution at their own place of worship the next morning. It is estimated that over 75,000 places of worship took up a One Great Hour of Sharing collection that year.

Your previous gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing are at work right now, on the borders of Ukraine with our established partners, and also in many places, including Syria and Lebanon, Democratic Republic of Congo, and in our own country in Detroit, D.C, and Puerto Rico.

God knows life is more than food and clothing. The church shows the love and care of God when we make sure our neighbors around the world have these things, so that they can once again look to the lilies of the field, the ravens in the sky, and have hope that there will once again be more to life than bare survival. That is God's good news we share in real ways in these days, trusting that Christ's hope includes life abundant for all creation.

In Resurrection hope,

Leah

"Paying attention is a form of reciprocity with the living world, receiving the gifts with open eyes and open heart."

- Robin Wall Kimmerer, Braiding Sweetgrass (2013)



Holy Week

Ecumenical Holy Week Services

The Stillwater Ministerium, a collection of area pastors and church leaders, has organized a daily worship series for the community during Holy Week, April 11-15, from 12:10pm-12:50pm. This year's services are graciously hosted by First Baptist Church (701 S Duncan) and a variety of denominations are represented in leadership.

All are welcome to attend these ecumenical services, a great opportunity to grow in faith, worship with other Christians, and experience our unity in Christ.

Monday, April 11

- Preaching: Rev. Katie Paul, Highland Park United Methodist Church
- Liturgist: Rev. James Hunt, Wesley Foundation
- Organist: Dr. Thomas Dickey, Principal Organist, First Presbyterian Church, Norman

Tuesday, April 12

- Preaching: Pastor Sally Houck, Salem Lutheran Church
- Liturgist: Deacon Paul Govek, St. Francis Catholic Parish
- Organist: Bradley Newcomb, Music Director and Organist, St. Mary's Catholic Church, Ponca City

Wednesday, April 13

- Preaching: Fr. Michael Matkin, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
- Liturgist: Rev. Leah R. Hrachovec, First Presbyterian Church
- Organist: Rebecca te Velde, Director of Music and Organist, First Presbyterian Church, Stillwater

Thursday, April 14

- Preaching: Pastor Tim Walker, First Baptist Church
- Liturgist: Rev. Cindy Robertson Riedel, First United Methodist Church
- Organist: Dominick Tucker and/or Gerald Frank, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Stillwater

Friday, April 15

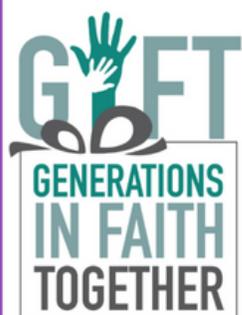
- Preaching: Captain Nic Arroqui, Salvation Army
- Liturgist: Rev. Jenny Hardin, First Presbyterian Church
- Organist: Micheal Crockett, Organist, First Christian Church

Palm Sunday

Join us for worship and Communion at 8:30 am and 11:00 am. The 11:00 am service will also include the **Procession of Palms**. All children who would like to process into worship waving palms are invited to meet in the Worship Center 5 minutes prior to the beginning of worship. Between services, at 9:45 am in Fellowship Hall, all are invited to take part in **Lenten GiFT**, our Intergenerational Lenten Gathering. Those who have been collecting coins in their **Fish Banks** during Lent are invited to bring them forward during Time with Children at either worship service.

Music for Palm Sunday includes:

- Extended organ prelude, "Piece Heroique" - Cesar Franck
- 11:00 am Anthem: "Ride On, King Jesus: A Palm Sunday Medley" - Sylvia Berg Oines with Jack Moffatt and Megan Flores as soloists
- Festive Postlude on "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" - R. te Velde



LENTEN GIFT
April 10
9:45-10:45
Fellowship Hall



Easter Sunday

Easter services will be at 8:30 and 11:00 am with the celebration of Communion and Chancel Choir at both services. Between services, all children are invited to the Worship Center for our Easter Celebration as we celebrate the joy and hope of the resurrection!

Easter Sunday Music includes:

- Extended prelude with organ and trumpets - Omar Martinez and Ryan Lancaster - trumpets
- Anthem: "The Strife Is O'er" - H.G. Ley
- Communion Anthem: "Lift High the Cross" - arr. R. Lau (both anthems include congregational participation)
- Organ Postlude "Toccata" (Symphony No. 5 for Organ) - Ch.-M. Widor

Maundy Thursday

The Maundy Thursday Tenebrae service is a long-standing tradition here at FPC, with worship led by our pastors, our youth, and our choir. Please make plans to join us on Thursday April 14th, at 7:00 pm to watch and experience the final hours of Jesus' life in word and song. This powerful service includes the celebration of Communion and the stripping of the chancel.

Maundy Thursday Music includes:

- Prelude on "Said Judas to Mary" - S. Carter, arr. R. te Velde
- Anthem: "Said Judas to Mary" - S. Carter, Jack Moffatt - soloist
- Solo: "Take My Mother Home" - spiritual, David Silver - soloist
- Solemn Postlude on "Ah, Holy Jesus" - J. Brahms



From the Organ Bench

Special Prelude for Palm Sunday

The Prelude on April 10 will be an extended organ piece (~8-1/2 minutes) by French composer César Franck, whose 200th birthday is being celebrated worldwide this year (1822-1890). "Pièce Héroïque" ("Heroic Piece") does not have a specific story attached to its dramatic title, although we might safely assume that it stands as a testimony to Franck's own life of suffering and tragedy. However, when heard in the context of Palm Sunday, this piece is a powerful vehicle for meditation on the Palm Sunday story: the excitement of the crowd set over a background of agitation and political turmoil, and a parade that begins Christ's road to Crucifixion and, ultimately, triumph over death on Easter. Please come a little early to prepare for this special service.

Saturday Brunch Update

When the COVID-19 pandemic began, our Saturday Brunch teams quickly shifted their ministry to provide meals to go on Saturday mornings. Now that the COVID-19 numbers are dropping and restrictions are easing, our Saturday Brunch teams are implementing a plan to slowly transition back to in person meals. During the month of April, we will be building up our brunch teams so that each team has the hands needed to prepare a hot meal to serve. If you are interested in returning to serve on a brunch team or would like to learn more, contact Rev. Jenny Hardin in the church office (405-372-5580 or jenny.hardin@stillwaterfpc.org). Beginning on Saturday, May 7, we will offer meals to go with an option to stay and eat in the Fellowship Hall. Additional transition dates will be announced as they are decided. A refresher training will be held for all brunch volunteers, new and old, as we begin our transition back to in person meals. Look for a notice for the day and time of this refresher training in upcoming church publications, both print and digital.



One Great Hour of Sharing Easter Special Offering

One Great Hour of Sharing is one of four special offerings we collect, along with our siblings in the PC(USA) across the country, every year. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

There are a couple of ways to contribute to this offering: during worship, when we collect the regular Sunday offering (be sure to write "OGHS" or "Special Offering" in the memo line of your check or on your giving envelope) and online via the giving portal on the FPC website. This offering will be collected during worship on Palm Sunday (April 10) and Easter Sunday (April 17).



Adult Education & Fellowship

Adult Sunday School Classes

- "Feasting on the Word" - led by Denise Rex, this class follows the Revised Common Lectionary (the Scripture readings we hear on Sunday mornings) and meets in the Upper Room (south end of 2nd floor).
- "Faith & Fellowship" - led by Tim Hardin, this new adult formation class intends to delve into a variety of topics according to the interests of the class participants. During Lent, the class is exploring the Gospel of John.
- NEW! "Wonderfully and Fearfully Made: Disability and Faith" is a new Sunday School class led by Phyllis Taylor and will begin on Sunday, April 24th. The discussion in this class will focus on disability and theology.



Faith on Tap

Join us for this monthly fellowship gathering where we discuss topics that are pertinent to our faith. This year, our conversations are guided by what it means to be the church.

April Seasoned Adults

Monday, April 18

5:30pm gathering and

6:00pm dinner



April's Seasoned Adults meeting will celebrate National Poetry Month. Led by Dr. Belinda Bruner, participants will learn about poetic themes and forms, will hear some original, award-winning poetry, and will have a chance to write a poem with professional help. Each year since its inception, poetry month has had a theme; this year's theme is the environment. Belinda's own poetic motto is "How do I poetry? Let me count the ways." She will clarify this idea, and share her love of language. Join us for meaningful fun on April 18. Reservations for the meal portion of the April program are needed by Friday, April 15. You can make reservations by emailing Kelly at kelly.mccarley@stillwaterfpc.org, or by calling the church office at 405-372-5580.

Looking ahead, on May 16th we will welcome Gary and Nancy Simpson who will tentatively present a photo essay entitled "Georgia O'Keefe in New Mexico". The program portrays the time that the artist spent in New Mexico and includes many of her most important paintings over her life in both New York and New Mexico. Mark your calendar early for this great program.



Intentionally Intergenerational



CONNECT

SUMMER GIFT
JUNE 24-26
@ Lake McMurtry
 Stay overnight or just come
 for the daily activities



Mark your calendars to join in the fun at this summer's Generations in Faith Together (GiFT). Summer GiFT will take place on the west side of Lake McMurtry with activities on Friday night, all day Saturday, and ending in worship on Sunday morning. Participants are invited to camp overnight (RV and tent camping available) or just come for the daily and evening activities.

Our theme for Summer GiFT is "Connect." Through our time together, we'll explore connections with God, one another, and creation. Through small and large group activities, games, nature activities like hiking, fishing, kayaking, and fellowship around the campfire, we hope that we will all leave this experience with closer connections with people of all ages and a deeper connection with God and God's creation.

Registration is open at www.stillwaterfpc.org/page/home/fellowship/gift-the-new-vbs.

Note: RV spaces are limited, so register early!

For more information or to help with GiFT by donating your time or supplies (or money), contact Jenna Campbell at jenna.campbell@stillwaterfpc.org or 405-372-5580.

Elder Interviews - Sunday, April 24th

For over two years the pandemic has limited our interaction with each other. The youth of FPC are hoping to help bring some of our most vulnerable and isolated members into the spotlight this year by collecting "Elder Stories." After learning to conduct interviews, the youth are inviting Seasoned Adults, and anyone seasoned at heart, to share stories about their faith journey. This could include favorite hymns and parables, turning points in faith, and special memories from Sundays at church or VBS in summers of yore.

The youth would like to visit, interview style, with older adults on Sunday, April 24, from 5:00pm to 6:30, in Fellowship Hall. We will observe every possible safety precaution against COVID. If attendance is not possible or advisable, please contact Belinda Bruner (belinda.bruner@gmail.com) for the interview questions which you might answer on your own and submit. Belinda will be creating a bound document of memories to be placed in our church library.



Outdoor Day

Saturday, April 23

10:00am - Noon at Couch Park

We will celebrate Earth Day with an Outdoor Day this year, hosted by the Earth Care Team and the Fellowship & Family Committee. Activities for all ages, including games and some take-home activities, will be offered that highlight the beauty of nature and this opportunity to spend time in God's creation. Water and snacks will be provided. We hope you will join us.

Outdoor Day in celebration of Earth Day

Saturday, April 23

10:00am - 12:00pm

at Couch Park

Join us for a variety of activities to highlight the beauty of nature and spend time together outdoors!

Reception for Marilyn Waters-Seig

There will be a farewell reception for Marilyn Waters-Seig, hosted by her family, on Friday, April 15th at the Atherton Hotel from 4:00-6:00pm.

All are welcome to attend this come-and-go event.

2022 Intergenerational Mission Trip

Wednesday, May 25 - Tuesday, May 31, 2022

at Goodland Academy in Hugo, Oklahoma

Youth* and adults 6th grade and older are invited to join us for our 2022 Intergenerational Mission Trip this spring. We will be returning to the Goodland Academy in Hugo, Oklahoma to complete the work on their chapel building that we began during a previous trip. Our work may also include cleaning and organizing, landscaping, and painting. Register here (<https://bit.ly/2022missiontrip>) and find additional information on the church website. If you prefer, paper registration forms are available in the Narthex at the church.

*Youth in 6th and 7th grades must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Important dates to remember:

- Wednesday, May 4: Deadline to register
- Sunday, May 15: Introductions and Team Building at 12:15pm (following the 11:00am worship service. This gathering will include lunch)
- Full Mission Trip: Wednesday, May 25 - Tuesday, May 31 - cost is \$175
- Half Week: Wednesday, May 25 - Saturday, May 28 or Saturday, May 28 - Tuesday, May 31 - cost is \$75
- Weekend Only: Friday, May 27 - Sunday, May 29 - cost is \$50



Children's & Youth Ministries

Children's Sunday School

For children 4yrs - 5th grade. Begins at 9:45am in the Worship Center

April's unit is The Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin.

SpiritLink Dates to Note:

- April 10 - Lenten GiFT
- April 17 - Easter Celebration
- May 8 - Music Sunday; SpiritLink Singers will sing during the 11:00am worship service



Presbyterian Youth Group Calendar

April

- 3 - 5:00-6:30pm PYG
- 10 - 5:00-6:30pm PYG
- 17 - NO PYG Happy Easter!
- 24 - 5:00-6:30pm PYG: Elder Interviews (see p. 6)

May

- 1 - NO PYG
- 8 - NO PYG Happy Mother's Day!
- 15 - 5:00-6:30pm Tears & Cheers Dinner
- 22 - NO PYG

Volunteer Appreciation Brunch

Sunday, May 15th @9:45am in Fellowship Hall

All Children's and Youth ministry volunteers - Sunday school teachers and shepherds, PYG sponsors, committee members, major event coordinators....

Mark your calendars for Sunday, May 15, when you will be honored at a brunch for the time and love you have invested in our children and youth. We love our volunteers!

Maundy Thursday Rehearsal & Worship

Thursday April 14

5:30-7:00pm - rehearsal and dinner

7:00-8:00pm - Worship

6th-12th graders are invited to provide worship leadership for the Maundy Thursday service. We will gather at 5:30 to run through leadership roles (presentation of Scripture, removal of items in the Sanctuary, ushering), have a quick pizza dinner, and then be ready to lead when worship begins at 7:00pm.



Congratulations!

Senior Recognition Sunday - May 1

Join us in celebrating our high school seniors on Sunday morning, May 1. We will have a reception for our high school graduates beginning at 10:30 am in the Vestibule on that Sunday and seniors will also be recognized during worship. You are welcome to greet them again in the Vestibule at the conclusion of the 11:00 am worship service. Blessings to all of our graduates!

Tears and Cheers!

Welcome 5th Graders/Congrats to HS Grads

Sunday, May 15th - 5:00-6:30pm

Incoming 6th graders (fall 2022) and graduating high school seniors are invited to be the guests of honor at PYG. We'll welcome incoming 6th graders and celebrate our graduates together with a dinner at the church with all the youth!



Youth Sunday Thank You!

Many thanks to our FPC youth for leading such an inspiring and empowering Youth Sunday worship service on the theme of "Seeing Jesus" on March 6th!



Summer Camp for 3rd-12th graders!
Oklahoma week at Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center
Learn more and register at www.ferncliff.org/oklahoma

Ferncliff is a Presbyterian camp and conference center located in Little Rock, AR. Oklahoma presbyteries are planning on the week of June 12-17 to send Oklahoma campers to Ferncliff. They are making plans to arrange for transportation for that week (so be sure to fill out the transportation survey at the link above). Jenna Campbell will be attending as a volunteer the week of June 12-17 and we hope to get a great group of FPC children and youth to join other Oklahoma campers at Ferncliff.

Discount codes for a week of camp (use these codes and save!):
CIMARRON - \$250 off from Cimarron Presbytery
STILLWATER - \$50 off from FPC Stillwater



FPC News



Stephen Ministry

Last Sunday, March 27, we commissioned two new Stephen Ministers--Anne Belanus and Debby Schoenecke--who just recently completed their 20 week Stephen Minister training. They are now ready to enter into a caring relationship with hurting individuals.

Are you wondering if you would benefit from having a Stephen Minister? You may be interested in hearing the experience of one individual who sent the following letter recently to Stephen Ministry headquarters in St. Louis.

"I thank God every day for leading me to my Stephen Minister. When we began our caring relationship, I was slowly coming out of the numbness I felt after the shattering of my marriage. Her patience, her listening ear, and her willingness to serve have completely changed the trajectory of my life.

Without a doubt, accepting care from my church's Stephen Ministry has been the best decision of my life. Everyone should be able to have a Stephen Minister when they need one--it's an amazing model of how the body of Christ can work. God is truly being glorified through their service everywhere!"

If you would like to ask about having a Stephen Minister, please visit with Pastor Leah Hrachovec or one of our Stephen Leaders, Carolyn Caldwell, Kay Stewart, Linda Burks and Linda Good.



UKIRK

We continue to meet every Wednesday morning at 8:30 am at Balanced 2.0 in the Wesley Center. All college and graduate students and college age individuals are invited to our final gatherings of the semester. Join us for lunch after worship on Sunday, April 24 and for our end of year celebration on Saturday, April 30. Details about location will be shared on the UKirk Stillwater Facebook page and in the GroupMe. If you are a student and would like to be added to the GroupMe for regular updates, contact Rev. Jenny Hardin.

Are you graduating from college or graduate school this spring? Do you have a family member graduating from college or graduate school this spring? We want to know about it! Please contact Rev. Jenny Hardin in the church office (405-372-5580 or jenny.hardin@stillwaterfpc.org) so we can add you or your graduate to our list. University graduates will be recognized during worship on Sunday, April 24.

Monthly Income / Expense Report			
	February	Year to Date	% of Budget
Giving	\$ 58,911.15	\$ 126,650.44	19.14
Other Income	\$ 7,586.91	\$ 23,442.50	24.34
Total Income	\$ 66,498.06	\$ 150,092.94	19.80
Expenditures	\$ 54,589.77	\$ 125,907.45	16.63
Net	\$ 11,908.29	\$ 24,185.49	



Prayer Concerns

Lavon Alexander (Howard)
 Amanda (Hrachovec)
 Nick Amidon (Garoffolo)
 Shea Arnett (N. Thomas)
 David Awtry
 Baker
 Carrie Ballenger family (Ballenger)
 Betty Bays
 Zella Beers (Fairbanks)
 Mandy Blackburn
 Rose Marie Bligh
 Rita Breuninger
 Helen Britton
 Belinda Bruner
 Wayne Cartwright (Koepp)
 Paula Cavett (te Velde)
 Nancy Chapa (Fagan)
 Allison Christy (Breuninger)
 Abby Clapp (Clapp)
 Darlene Collyar (Silver)
 Conrado and Miriam (Hardin)
 Andee and Kannon Cooper (Hrachovec)
 Heather Davidson
 Sara Davies
 Martha Dearing (Meinke)
 Matthew Durham (Shawley)
 Eva Elassi (Mulvey)
 Lori Fagan
 Mike Flowers
 Ed Gallegos (Wilkinson)
 Omar Garcia
 Dorothy Gibbons (Holland)
 Lauren Glynn (Stewart)
 Halana (Leffingwell)
 George Hannon family (Garoffolo)
 Alana Harding (Redburn)
 Ben Harris (Wilkinson/Frohock)
 Kendall Harvey (Shaw)
 Mary Ann Henley (Henley)
 Charla Hilger (Roscoe)
 Charity Hitch (Plum)
 Nikki Hoffman (Matthews)
 Carolynne Hopkins

Linda Houck
 Sandy Ives
 Patty Jacobs
 Paul Dean Jenkins (Nipp)
 Brenda Johns (Taylor)
 Dorothy Johnson (McCarley)
 Larry Johnson (te Velde)
 Ted Joy (Taylor)
 Patty Keys
 Mary Jane Kirchenbauer (Breuninger)
 Margy Knox
 Pauline Kopecky
 Dottie Kraemer
 Karen Krehbiel (Breuninger)
 Hank Lett
 Judy Lewis
 Alyssa Matal (Krehbiel)
 Don McCall (Stiegler)
 Larry McDonald
 Stephanie McMillan (Taylor)
 Philip Meadows
 Tresa Miller (Miller)
 Jean Moore (Stangl)
 The Moore Family (Campbell)
 Anne Mullen (Mullen)
 Nora Nagaruk (Stangl)
 Susan Nance (Mulvey)
 Pricilia Nkem
 Joyce Odom (Hardin)
 Our Service Men & Women (Kraemer)
 Frances Phillips (Taylor)
 Jean Potts (Bills)
 Paul Quarles (Bobo)
 Tim Rains (Silver)
 Lisa Reavis (Stewart)
 Larry Redburn (Redburn)
 Jack Reeves
 Sara Roberts (Osborn)
 Cooper Russell (Savage)
 David Schmidly (Shaw)
 Frank Schull (Hrachovec)
 Bradley Schutt (Schlais)
 Bob & Bonnie Siddon (Stiegler)
 Karen Shippey (Swim)
 Brylee Shullanberg (Stiegler)

Jeffrey Silver
 David Smith (Cooper)
 Ted Smith
 Perry Sneed (Johnson)
 Jamie Stephens (Burgoon)
 Marla and Roger Stevens (Caldwell)
 Bobby Don Stevenson
 (Beckstrom/Houston)
 Christine Stone (Fairbanks/Cornelius)
 Debbie Stout
 Phyllis Taylor
 Torres-Barber family (te Velde)
 Upendo Kids (Shawley)
 Lisa Valdez (te Velde)
 Emily Walker (Walker)
 Nelda Wallace (Blosser)
 Barbara Ware (Fansler)
 Darrell Warren (Silver)
 Jim Wasson (Wasson/Emmet)
 Marilyn Waters-Seig
 Lynda Williams
 Jim Wise
 Jackie Young (Osborn)

MILITARY MEMBERS

Members & family members of our church family who have been deployed in service to our country:

- Jordan Buterbaugh, Marines (Case)
- Justin Fowler, Navy (Fowler)
- Col. James 'grata' Greenwald, Air Force
- Matt Krehbiel
- 1st Lt. Eric Murphy, Army (Fairbanks)
- Miles Smith, Recruit Division Commander, Department of the Navy (Schlais)
- SGT Bryn JT Williams, Army (Williams)

Session Organization

The Session is organized into the following areas of responsibility. If you have an interest in serving in a certain area or for a specific event, please reach out to one of the elders assigned to that ministry or contact the Church Office.

Clerk: John Gelder
email: john_gelder@me.com

Treasurer: Cathy Fairbanks
email: cathy.fairbanks@stillwaterfpc.org

Adult Ministry:

Judi Baker (chair)
Kelly McCarley

Children's Ministry:

Nancy Beckstrom (chair)
Jean Aresco

Communications & Connecting:

Kiah Butcher (co-chair)
Jill Stoutzenberger (co-chair)

Fellowship & Family:

Kathy Essmiller

Stewardship & Finance:

Tim Krehbiel (chair)
Cathy Fairbanks
Mark Howard

UKIRK (University):

John Mark Day (chair)
Ken Belanus

World Mission &

Denominational Concerns:

Gerrit Cuperus (chair)
Donna Koepp

Worship & Music:

David Conway (chair)
Nate Ingram

Youth Ministry:

Rusty Rex (chair)
Belinda Bruner

Trustee Liaison:

Charlie Johnson

Personnel:

John Mark Day (chair)
Kiah Butcher
Mark Howard

Endowment Liaison:

David Conway

Nominating Committee:

Tim Krehbiel (co-chair)
Rusty Rex (co-chair)

COVID Response Task Force:

Kathy Essmiller
Rusty Rex

Session Summary

The Session of First Presbyterian Church, Stillwater, Oklahoma met in its Stated Meeting on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall with some joining via Zoom. John Mark Day provided the Opening Thought and a Prayer, a prayer for Ukraine from the PCUSA website. A quorum was present.

Highlights of Session action:

- Approved a request from Rita Breuninger and her OSU extension group to collect good used coats for distribution to those in need in the community. Box will be available one Sunday per month in the Narthex for coat collection until October.
- Received a report from Covid Response Task Force regarding adjustments to Covid protocol, including approval of a request from Preschool teachers to remove masks indoors, approval of return to an in-person yoga group led by Courtney O'Malley.
- Heard from members of FPC's Earth Care Team, including FPC application for recertification as an Earth Care congregation. Pat Jaynes challenges members to not only care for the earth in our collective actions, but also individual decisions.
- Adjusted budget in light of news that the Presbyterian Youth Triennium 2022 has been canceled. Planned funds for Triennium will be used to support youth retreats and events
- Approved dates for collection of 2022 PCUSA Special Offerings, including One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost, Peace & Global Witness, and Christmas Joy

Session adjourned with prayer led by Pastor Leah Hrachovec at 6:38 pm. The next stated Session meeting is Tuesday, April 12 at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall with Zoom option.



Scout Updates

- Pack 3842 is on a roll! All our Cub Scouts have earned their ranks for the year, and all six of our 5th graders graduated into Scouts BSA and moved on to the troops they chose. We are now ready to round out the school year with fun activities. Our Spring campout is in April, where we'll have a campfire program (songs, skits, jokes), play teambuilding games, and practice knot-tying. If you know of any boy or girl in grades K-4 who may be interested in Cub Scouting, please contact Virginia Charter at pack3842@gmail.com or charter.virginia@gmail.com.
- Troop 888 is off to a great start, thanks largely in part to the church, Troop 820 and the Troop Committee. We currently have 6 members as well as a temporary member from the Republic of Georgia. We have a campout scheduled in April where the girls will focus on getting to know each other, team building, and some basic Scout Skills. If you know a girl age 11-17 who is interested in joining us please contact Melissa Huber at troop888gbsa@gmail.com.
- For Boy Scout news, we just completed our first Ouachita Trek in a couple years over spring break which was a great success for the scouts as they learned to overcome challenges. We would also like to thank the church for the donations at the annual congregational meeting that totaled \$913. We are fortunate to have the support of the church and this will help us continue our program for the scouts. In April we have a camp at Alabaster Caverns and in May we are going to Roman Nose state park. The troop is also planning to provide service with the Special Olympics and Relay for Life in the upcoming months. Contact Scout Master Bruce Greenshields at troop820bsa@gmail.com for more information.



BEHIND THE WALLS

A Trustees Update

Some may have noticed the new key pad lock on the western entry to our main Church building. We are striving to balance sound and safe security procedures while also providing an open and welcoming atmosphere. Staff and Trustees are working hard to establish procedures and needed computer programming to allow easy access to our Church for those of us needing entry. Please be patient and expect more news in the near future.

Can you help us pick up our order from the food bank?



Each month, we place an order with the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma for food and other supplies to supplement our Saturday Brunch Ministry. We are responsible for picking up our order when it is delivered to Our Daily Bread on the third Thursday of the month, and we are seeking volunteers with pick-up trucks to help. Sign up using the following link (<https://bit.ly/foodbankpickup>) or contact Associate Pastor Jenny Hardin in the Church Office.

The Easter Ambassador
First Presbyterian Church
524 S. Duncan St.
Stillwater, OK 74074
405-372-5580
www.stillwaterfpc.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Worship at First Presbyterian

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:30 am Worship Service

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am Hybrid Worship Service

Midweek Prayer

Wednesdays 12:10pm via Zoom

THE AMBASSADOR



EASTER 2022

Benefit Concert for Ukraine

An Invitation to the Community

Sunday, April 3 at 6:00 pm

First Baptist Church of Stillwater

701 S. Duncan St.

OSU choirs, brass ensembles, woodwind
quintet, singers

Stillwater High School strings



Easter Lily Time!

Lily order forms are now available

Easter Lily forms are available now and due to the Church Office by Monday April 11th. A copy of the form may be found as an insert in this newsletter and copies are also available in your Sunday bulletin, or in the Church Office. Lilies will be delivered to our homebound members and those who have experienced loss or illness following the Easter Sunday services.